



SDMS DocID

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THE ORIGINAL

INTERVIEW SUMMARY
Task Order 0001 Site 2
Lower Darby Creek Area Site

Walt Armstead

Prepared for:

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Region 3
Enforcement Support Services
Hazardous Site Cleanup Division
1650 Arch Street
Philadelphia, PA 19103

Prepared by:

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Work Assignment Number:
Date Submitted:
Contract Number:
EPA Work Assignment Manager:
Telephone Number:
Chenega Project Manager:
Telephone Number:
Interviewer:

Task Order 0001 Site 2
July 18, 2005
EP-S3-04-01
Carlyn Prisk
(215) 814-2625

Nonresponsive based on revised scope.
Nonresponsive based on revised scope.
Nonresponsive based on revised scope.
Nonresponsive based on revised scope.
Tri-State Enterprise

Name: Walt Armstead (WITNESS)

(b) (6)

Affiliation: Former Police Officer, Darby Township Police Department

Telephone:

(b) (6)

Type of Interview: In-Person

Date of Interview: July 18, 2005

On July 18, 2005, the WITNESS was interviewed at his residence by Nonresponsive based on revised scope.
Senior Investigator, of Tri-State Enterprise. The WITNESS was interviewed as part of the Potentially Responsible Party search currently being conducted under Task Order 0001 Site 2, involving the Lower Darby Creek Area, Delaware County, PA (the "Site.") This interview focused on the Clearview Landfill. The WITNESS was provided with a copy of the letter of introduction, advised of the nature of the questions to be asked, and that the interview was voluntary. The WITNESS stated that he is not represented by an attorney in this matter and does not want an attorney. No other persons were present during this interview and the interview was not tape-recorded.

During the course of this interview, the WITNESS responded to questions based on guidelines provided by the United States Environmental Protection Agency for Government officials.

The WITNESS was shown an aerial photograph of the Site and this aerial photograph was used as a reference throughout the interview.

The WITNESS was asked to explain his associations with the Clearview Landfill.

The WITNESS stated that he was employed as a Darby Township Police Officer from 1969 to 1992. The WITNESS stated that the east side of the Clearview Landfill was in the jurisdiction of the Darby Township Police Department.

The WITNESS stated that he responded to complaints at the Clearview Landfill several times each year. He stated that most of these complaints were regarding fires at the landfill. The WITNESS stated that residents living in the area continuously complained about fires on the landfill. The WITNESS stated that most of the fires were caused by spontaneous combustion.

When asked if he spoke to anyone at the Clearview Landfill when he responded to the Site, the WITNESS stated "yes." The WITNESS stated that he would usually make contact with Ed Heller or Richie Heller.

When asked if he observed trucks disposing of waste at the Site, the WITNESS stated "yes" and provided the following:

- Eastern Industrial: The WITNESS stated that he recalls Eastern Industrial disposing of waste at the Site. The WITNESS stated that he did not know what types of waste Eastern Industrial disposed at the Site.
- Philadelphia Municipal Waste: The WITNESS stated that he observed the City of Philadelphia dispose of waste at the Site. He does not know the types of waste disposed at the Site by the City of Philadelphia.

The WITNESS stated that he could not recall any further names of waste transporters.

The WITNESS was asked if he recalls an incident at the Site of an individual being burnt to death in a truck fire. The WITNESS stated that he recalls being told of the incident. The WITNESS stated that he was on vacation at the time of the incident and was told of the incident when he returned. The WITNESS stated that the incident occurred in the early 1970s, possibly 1972 to 1973. The WITNESS stated that he cannot recall specific information about the fatality other than a man burnt to death in a truck fire.

When asked if he ever observed drums on the Landfill, the WITNESS stated "yes." The WITNESS stated that from approximately 1979 to 1992 a company stored steel drums in the yard at the Site next to the Site office. The WITNESS stated that this Company also operated at least three flat bed tractor trailers to transport these drums. The WITNESS stated that he had observed these three trucks at the Site on numerous occasions.

When asked if the drums contained any waste, the WITNESS stated that he does not know. The WITNESS stated that in approximately 1978 while on duty, he pulled over one of these trucks for an illegal U-turn. The WITNESS stated that he recalls asking the driver of the truck if the drums contained anything, and was told by the driver that the drums were empty. The WITNESS stated that the driver told the WITNESS that the drums had been emptied at another location and were being stored at the Site for resale.

When asked if he checked these drums for contents, the WITNESS stated "no."

When asked if he recalls the name of the truck driver, the WITNESS stated "no." When asked if there was a record of this vehicle stop, the WITNESS stated that he recalls writing a ticket and indicated that a copy of this ticket would be on file with the Darby Township Police Department.

When asked the names of any other individuals who may have knowledge of activities at the Site, the WITNESS stated that most of the police officers at the time the Site was in use are deceased. The WITNESS stated that the Chief of Police in the early 1970's was Chief Johnson, who is deceased. The WITNESS stated that his widow, Mrs. Johnson, still lives in Darby Township. The WITNESS stated that Chief Johnson may have kept his own files and that Mrs. Johnson may still have these files.

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The WITNESS stated that in the early 1970's a Darby Township Police Officer, Bob Waller, worked part-time at the Site for the Hellers. The WITNESS stated that Waller is deceased. The WITNESS stated that the current Darby Township Police Chief, Chief Thompson, was a patrolman in the early 1970s, and may have knowledge of waste disposal activities at the Site.

"I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct."

Executed on _____
(Date)

Signed _____
(Name)

ENFORCEMENT CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

Interviewer's Comments and Suggested Follow-up Interviews

Interviewer Comments: The WITNESS was cooperative and forthcoming. He is elderly and indicated that his memory is failing slightly.

The WITNESS suggested that I contact Mrs. Johnson about the possible existence of records kept by Chief Johnson.

When asked if he wanted his name kept confidential to the extent possible, the WITNESS stated that he did not care.

Suggested Follow-up Interviews:

- Robert Thompson: I have interviewed Chief Johnson. However, he was not forthcoming and a second interview may be worthwhile.